



## Education Work Group Report January 19, 2017

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TO: Susan Summers, Chair

FROM: Jim Kruger, Workgroup Chair, and Peter G. Conrad, Planning Staff

SUBJECT: Progress Report

DATE: January 19, 2017

Since the last workgroup report in November 2016, the Education Workgroup held one regular meeting on December 6<sup>th</sup> and discussed the following projects:

1. Reinvest Maryland

The Education Workgroup discussed whether there would be opportunities to develop educational initiatives to advance Reinvest Maryland. The Workgroup decided this effort on hold until the Commission completes its review and revisions to the Reinvest Maryland document. Once that reassessment is complete the Workgroup can incorporate the updated recommendations into its educational program efforts.

2. Children in Nature Initiative

DNR has been taking the lead on this initiative. The program takes a holistic approach to looking at ways to encourage, support and program increased outdoor experiences for children. At the December meeting Sandi Olek went over DNR's Children In Nature's new website [Community Green Space Guide](http://dnr2.maryland.gov/cin/Pages/GreenSpaceGuide/home.aspx) (<http://dnr2.maryland.gov/cin/Pages/GreenSpaceGuide/home.aspx>). Workgroup and Commission members are encouraged to take a look at this site and provide Sandi any comments or suggestions that you may have.

3. Sustainable Growth Challenge

Chuck Boyd contacted all of the college representatives that expressed initial interest in participating in the Challenge this year. Unfortunately, not enough of the colleges could participate this year. The Education Workgroup will be discussing how we can revamp this initiative to get better participation next year, but for 2017 there will be no challenge.